



**1998**

# **LABOUR STATISTICS**

**in brief  
Australia**



ABS Catalogue No. 6104.0

	Units	Annual average	
		1987	1997

## CIVILIAN POPULATION

Aged 15 and over	million	12.5	14.6
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## LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION

Participation rates			
Males	%	75.3	73.2
Females	%	48.9	53.7
Persons	%	62.0	63.3

## EMPLOYMENT

Males	'000	4 291.0	4 785.5
Females	'000	2 837.8	3 643.9
Persons	'000	7 128.8	8 429.4
Full-time	%	80.4	74.5
Part-time	%	19.6	25.5
Employment/population ratio	%	57.0	57.7

## UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployed persons	'000	628.9	791.1
Unemployment rate			
Males	%	7.8	8.8
Females	%	8.6	8.3
Persons	%	8.1	8.6
Aged 15-19	%	20.0	20.6
Average duration, persons	weeks	46.6	53.2

## HOURS OF WORK

Average weekly hours worked by employed persons	hours	35.0	34.6
Full-time	hours	39.8	41.1
Part-time	hours	15.0	15.5
Average weekly overtime hours per employee	hours	1.3	1.1

## INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

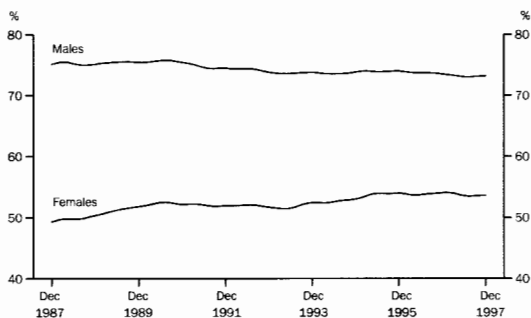
		12 months ended December	
		1987	1997
Industrial disputes			
Working days lost per thousand employees	no.	223.0	74.0
Working days lost	'000	1 316.4	528.8
		August	
		1996	1997
Trade union members	'000	2 194.3	2 110.3

## CHANGE IN WAGES AND PRICES

		12 months to 1997	10 years to 1997
		%	%
Average weekly earnings, full-time adults	Aug.	4.0	58.6
Consumer price index, All groups	Dec.Qtr.	-0.2	40.4

# LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION

LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES, Trend Estimates



Source: Labour Force, Australia (6203.0).

## PARTICIPATION RATES, BORN OUTSIDE AUSTRALIA, (%) Annual Average 1997

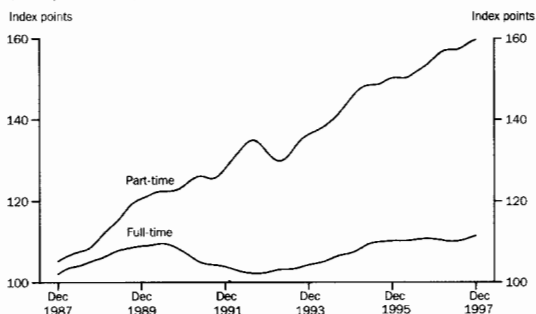
Period of Arrival	Main English Speaking Countries(a)	Other than Main English Speaking Countries
Before 1971	52.2	44.1
1971 to 1980	76.0	66.3
1981 to 1990	74.9	66.8
1991 to 1995	77.9	53.6
1996 to 1997	75.0	40.8

(a) Main English Speaking Countries include: New Zealand; UK; Ireland; Canada; USA; and South Africa.

Source: Labour Force, Australia (6203.0).

# EMPLOYMENT

FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT INDEX, Trend Estimates  
(January 1987=100)



Source: Labour Force Australia (6203.0)

## EMPLOYED PERSONS: STATUS OF WORKER ('000)

	Annual average	
	1987	1997
Employees	5 980.3	7 120.7
Own account workers	712.0	849.0
Employers	344.0	351.3
Contributing family workers	63.8	73.1
Total	7 100.0	8 394.0

Source: Labour Force, Australia (6203.0)

## EMPLOYED PERSONS: INDUSTRY Annual Average 1997

	'000	%
Agriculture forestry and fishing	435.9	5.2
Mining	82.7	1.0
Manufacturing	1 136.0	13.5
Electricity, gas and water supply	65.7	0.8
Construction	580.8	6.9
Wholesale trade	489.5	5.8
Retail trade	1 231.4	14.7
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	404.9	4.8
Transport and storage	394.8	4.7
Communication services	155.0	1.8
Finance and insurance	314.0	3.7
Property and business services	855.6	10.2
Government administration and defence	356.0	4.2
Education	578.1	6.9
Health and community services	778.2	9.3
Cultural and recreational services	202.0	2.4
Personal and other services	333.4	4.0
Total	8 394.0	100.0

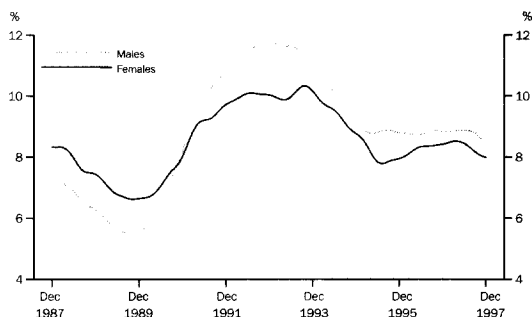
Source: Labour Force, Australia (6203.0).

## EMPLOYED PERSONS: OCCUPATION Annual Average 1997

	'000	%
Managers and administrators	635.2	7.6
Professionals	1 445.3	17.2
Associate professionals	896.6	10.7
Tradespersons and related workers	1 140.7	13.6
Advanced clerical and service workers	383.8	4.6
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	1 401.4	16.7
Intermediate production and transport workers	776.5	9.3
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	864.9	10.3
Labourers and related workers	849.6	10.1
Total	8 394.0	100.0

Source: Labour Force, Australia (6203.0).

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES, Trend Estimates



Source: Labour Force, Australia (6203.0)

## UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY AGE AND WHETHER LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME WORK Annual Average 1997 ('000)

Age group	Looking for full-time work	Looking for part-time work	Total
<b>Males</b>			
15-19	50.8	33.1	83.9
20 and over	350.3	26.8	377.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>401.1</b>	<b>59.9</b>	<b>461.0</b>
<b>Females</b>			
15-19	35.2	35.6	70.7
20 and over	188.2	71.2	259.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>223.3</b>	<b>106.7</b>	<b>330.1</b>
<b>Persons</b>			
15-19	86.0	68.7	154.7
20 and over	538.5	97.9	636.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>624.5</b>	<b>166.6</b>	<b>791.1</b>

Source: Labour Force, Australia (6203.0).

## UNEMPLOYED PERSONS: DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT ('000)

Duration of unemployment (weeks)	Annual average	
	1987	1997
Under 52	452.7	545.9
Less than 4	111.3	129.7
4 and under 13	143.8	169.8
13 and under 52	197.6	246.5
52 and over (long-term unemployed)	176.1	245.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>628.9</b>	<b>791.1</b>

Source: Labour Force, Australia (6203.0).

## WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS

### WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS: Private and Public Sectors

	August 1997	
	'000	%
Private(a)	5 385.3	78.3
Public		
Commonwealth	282.6	4.1
State	1 066.0	15.5
Local	142.0	2.1
Total	1 490.6	21.7
Total(a)	6 875.8	100.0

(a) Excludes private sector employees in Agriculture, forestry and fishing.

Source: *Employed Wage and Salary Earners, Australia* (6248.0).

### AVERAGE WEEKLY TOTAL EARNINGS (\$)

	August 1996	August 1997
Full-time adults		
Males	774.8	808.0
Females	614.2	641.2
Persons	717.2	746.1

Source: *Average Weekly Earnings, States and Australia* (6302.0).

## INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES



Source: *Industrial Disputes, Australia* (6321.0).

## JOB VACANCIES

### JOB VACANCIES: INDUSTRY ('000)

	15 Nov. 1996	21 Nov. 1997
Manufacturing	6.1	6.6
Wholesale trade; Retail trade	12.5	14.9
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	8.2	6.0
Finance and insurance; Property and business services	10.8	18.4
Education; Health and community services	7.7	8.6
Other	17.0	13.6
Total all industries	62.3	68.1

Source: *Job Vacancies and Overtime, Australia* (6354.0).

## EDUCATION

### EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF PERSONS AGED 15 TO 64 WHO WERE EMPLOYED IN MAY 1997

	'000	%
With post-school qualifications	3 971.3	48.2
Without post-school qualifications(a)	4 073.7	49.4
Completed highest level of school	1 494.8	18.1
Did not complete highest level of school	2 576.0	31.3
Still attending school	194.1	2.4
Total	8 239.0	100.0

(a) Includes persons who never attended school.

Source: *Transition from Education to Work, Australia 1997* (6227.0).

## INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS

### SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS

	Population mid-1996	Participation rate — Annual average 1996(a)	Unemployment rate — Annual average 1996
	(million)	%	%
Australia	18.3	74.7	8.5
Canada	30.0	75.9	9.7
France	58.3	67.8	12.4
Italy	57.3	58.5	12.0
Japan	126.0	77.3	3.4
Sweden	8.8	79.0	8.0
U.S.A.	265.3	79.3	5.4
Germany	82.0	70.3	9.0

(a) ILO/OECD definition.

Source: 1996 World Population Data Sheet, Population Reference Bureau, Inc.; OECD Labour Force Statistics.

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